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## The Two Political Parties. Are They Dead?

BY LEO.

It is nothing new for political parties to die. Several of them have given up the ghost within our brief history. The Federal party of Washington's day became defunct, or rather changed its name to Whig. And the latter died and had its re-birth in the present Republican party. Likewise, the old Republican party of Thomas Jefferson's day died out and was succeeded by the Democratic party of Andrew Jackson's time.

And coming down to recent date we have to chronicle the death of several political parties; such as the Populist, the Prohibition, and Silver Republican parties, which have gone the way of all the earth, leaving no heirs to inherit. Of course, the Prohibition party still survives as a social and moral party, but no longer as a political entity. Political parties do die, and oftentimes to the benefit of the country.

Editor Henry Watterson of Louisville, Ky., declared the other day that the two great political parties, Democrat and Republican, are dead. And he further remarked that Bryan killed the Democratic party, and Roosevelt the Republican party.

This great editor has oftentimes made mistakes in his political essays, and this is one of them. The Republican party is quite alive and kicking, giving no symptoms of early demise. And therefore it is not true that Roosevelt killed it.

As to the Democratic party, it likewise lives, but without the vigor of its former days. It would have been better if it had died in 1860, or thereabouts, or changed its name; but to the great advantage of the Republican party, the party Democratic has been continued in name at least.

W. J. Bryan is accused of killing the Democratic party. We hardly concur. The party was somewhat defunct before Bryan became the head of it. It is true, the vagaries of the "peerless leader" have been a heavy weight around the neck of the Democracy, rendering defeat at the polls quite certain; but, in justice to Bryan, we must say that he was only the mouth-piece of the majority in his party. In 1896 Bryan became the head of his party by an overwhelming vote. He was chosen to lead because they saw in him the incarnation of their ideas, and their only hope of victory at the polls. He did not inflict himself on the party, but was chosen by the party. As to killing the Democratic party it is no more correct a statement than if one said the Democratic party has killed W. J. Bryan. Neither statement is true. Probably a nearer approach to the truth is the statement that Bryan, as leader of the Democracy, and the Democracy so led, have been a hurt to each other. If Bryan had the good fortune to head the Republican party, a live organization, he would have been our chief magistrate some time ago. His popularity, eloquence, and magnetic presence would have carried him to the front, provided that he had been a true Republican.

He had the misfortune to head a divided party; in fact, the head of three parties in 1896, and all three parties were as much in

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error as himself. Two of the parties, namely, the Populist and Silver Republican, have vanished and Bryan himself is nearly a "dead duck" politically.

The "Darke County Boy" is of the opinion that Bryan "did not slay with the jaw bone of an ass" a la Samson. Guess he is right. Let us say he did the slaying with his eloquent tongue and cunning vagaries. Unlike Samson, Bryan only slew his party.

### The Price of Health.

"The price of health in a malarious district is just 25 cents; the cost of a box of Dr. King's New Life Pills," writes Ella Slayton, of Noland, Ark. New Life Pills cleanse gently and impart new life and vigor to the system. 25c. Satisfaction guaranteed at Wm. Kipp's Sons' drug store.

### Otterbein.

W. E. Judy and family of West Manchester visited Harley Erick and family Sunday.

Ezra Slifer and wife visited relatives at Ansonia from Saturday until Monday.

Russell Coblenz and family visited Mr. Wills and family near Eldorado Sunday.

Clifford Howell of near West Manchester and Miss Anna Hetzler of this place were married on last Wednesday, and on the following evening the boys of this community gave them an old-fashioned serenading. The contracting parties are both highly respected in their respective communities and our best wishes go with them.

Philip Grubbs and wife and Albert Niswonger and family visited Curtis Grubbs and wife Sunday.

Perry Niswonger and Mrs. Frank Coblenz of this place and Clem Crawford and Misses Verma and Debah Shuler of Beech Grove are taking in the Jamestown Exposition this week.

Orlando Shumaker and family visited Joe Shumaker and family Sunday.

Van Odell has made arrangements to move to Ithaca in the spring.

Clifford Fowble visited Glen and Diller Howell Sunday.

R. G. Howell is again the victim of sciatic rheumatism, and at present writing is not able to be out of bed.

T. L. Howell and wife visited Van Odell and wife Sunday.

Rev. Bowers preached at this place Sunday morning and evening. He will, in all probability, take up the work at this place.

**"Pneumonia's Deadly Work"** had so seriously affected my right lung," writes Mrs. Fannie Connor, of Rural Route 1, Georgetown, Tenn., "that I coughed continuously night and day and the neighbors' prediction—consumption—seemed inevitable, until my husband brought home a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery, which in my case proved to be the only real cough cure and restorer of weak, sore lungs." When all other remedies utterly fail, you may still win in the battle against lung and throat troubles with New Discovery, the real cure. Guaranteed by Wm. Kipp's Sons, druggists. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

### Franklin Township High School Literary.

The second literary meeting of Franklin Township High School for winter of 1907-08 convened Friday evening, October 11. The meeting was called to order by the president. Minutes of last meeting were read by the secretary and approved by the Society.

The program opened with song by the school, after which T. S. Eikenberry gave an excellent address, subject, "The Indebtedness of Young Americans," proving to all that we are greatly indebted for many things which we are not realizing. Some of the numerous things mentioned are our indebtedness to the discoverers of our country, to those who gave their lives in the Revolutionary war that they might win our freedom, to those who gave their lives in the Civil war that they might save our country from division, to the many inventors who toiled so unceasingly that they might effect something for the benefit of their fellowmen, to the originators and founders of our schools and school systems from the earliest dawn of civilization to the present day, and to the literary men of England and America whose contributions to literature are ours daily and who spent many weary hours and sleepless nights that they might give something to the world that should ennoble it. But after all, we are wholly indebted to our Heavenly Father for all these innumerable blessings from whom cometh all good things, and quoting from Bryant's *Thanatopsis*, "So live that when thy summons come to join that innumerable caravan that leads to that mysterious realm, where each shall take his chamber in the silent hall of death. Go thou not like a quarry slave scoured to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave as one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Essay, "Ambition," by Wilbert Coppock, was good.

Male Quartette—Principal J. D. Crowell, H. C. Royer, F. R. Groff and T. S. Eikenberry.

Imaginary Story, "The man who took his own picture," Harry C. Royer.

Song by Senior Girls.

Select Reading, "His last two loaves," Ward Stoltz.

Editorial Paper, edited by Ethel Riffel, Althia Kreider, Lloyd Eshelman and Carl Wright.

Critic's Report by Supt. McCool proved beneficial to all.

Our next meeting will be held Friday evening, October 25.

COR. SECRETARY.

### Bitten by a Spider.

Through blood poisoning caused by a spider bite, John Washington of Bosqueville, Tex., would have lost his leg, which became a mass of running sores, had he not been persuaded to try Bucklen's Arnica Salve. He writes: "The first application relieved, and four boxes healed all the sores." Heals every sore. 25c at Wm. Kipp's Sons' drug store.

Notice to Land Buyers—I have for sale a large list of good farms in Randolph county, Ind. See me before buying. C. B. COURTNEY, front room over Postoffice, Winchester, Ind. 3m3

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

In Administration circles the opinion prevails that there is no doubt that Secretary Taft's visit to China will increase the cordial relations between China and the United States and add to the prestige of American trade in the Orient. The Chinese press and people seem convinced at last that this country has no desire to annex any part of their territory and that the American people desire China's progress in the development of her resources and in the welfare of her people, and the cordial sentiment of the Chinese government toward the United States is held to be one more star added to the Roosevelt firmament.

Great interest has been aroused not only in military, but also in civilian circles, by the discovery that army officers are again thinking seriously of the advisability of transferring the Coast Artillery from the War to the Navy department, and have presented to the Secretary of War arguments which, whether or not convincing, have at least led him to suggest to General Murray, Chief of Artillery, the advisability of drawing a bill providing for such transfer. While army officers are very anxious to get rid of this branch of the service and would like to see all expenditures for fortifications and maintenance of the Coast Artillery charged by Congress and to the public to the navy, the transfer cannot be consummated, presumably, without the sanction of the Secretary of the Navy and the staff officers of that department and there is every indication that they will receive the scheme with wholesale condemnation. Moreover, the difficulties involved in the preparation of a bill providing for such transfer are far more numerous than Mr. Taft appreciated, or else his suggestion that such a measure be drafted was merely another demonstration of the kindly shrewdness he not infrequently exhibits in compelling his friends to prove to themselves that the schemes they have recommended to him with the utmost fervor and enthusiasm are by no means practicable. While this subject seems likely to be debated with great earnestness until the arguments to be presented on each side of the question have been exhausted, there is not after all more expectation that action by either the President or the Secretary of War will result.

The past week the National Association of Railway Commissioners presented arguments for the necessity of their continued existence in their annual session in Washington. They have put themselves on record as opposed to the views of the President for Federal control of railways doing an interstate business, and have declared for an extension of the powers of the Commission instead of any curtailment thereof. The amazement, recently expressed by Mr. Wakeman, Secretary of the American Protective Tariff League, over the extent of the sentiment for tariff revision throughout the country, is a source of amazement to those politicians and officials in Washington who have, this past summer, taken the revision pulse of the country. The desire for a revision of our tariff schedules is so universal that it is regarded as a demand by the intelligent politicians.

The much-talked-of horsemanship test has passed into the "things that were," and the honor of the staff officers of our army has been vindicated. While there was a fair sprinkling of ro-

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tundity in the columns, it was clearly demonstrated that the term "fat colonels", which has been applied to them recently, is a misnomer. The outing was distinctly popular with most of the officers and many of them have suggested the advisability of taking such rides at weekly intervals for the good of the men stationed in Washington whose work is so sedentary as to unfit them for sudden emergency hiking.

Much regret is felt in Washington over the unfortunate turn the "cocktail" incident of Vice President Fairbanks' reception to the President has been given by some of his misguided friends. It is believed that Mr. Fairbanks will heartily disapprove of the article appearing in the recent issue of a religious organ, in which the onus for this much-advertised affair is placed on a woman friend of the family assisting them in their preparations for the reception. Mr. Fairbanks' entertainments in Washington, throughout the social season, are numerous and conducted on a magnificent scale, and wines are served at his dinners, and punches are served at his receptions, as they are at the establishments of all well-regulated official and society folk the world over. This is a well-known fact, and why such numerous and varied excuses should be offered by his friends for his hospitality in this particular instance is not apparent. Mr. and Mrs. Fairbanks are famous in official and social circles for their generous and cordial hospitality, and no one heretofore has presumed to criticize the nature of the refreshments served by this kindly host and hostess.

The Keep Commission has sent in its report to the President and it is the opinion of this Commission that the higher grades of public officials—such as heads of divisions and technicians—are much underpaid, compared with those in the same grade of work in private business. It is the opinion of this committee, also, that while the merit system is working to prevent jobbery in appointments, favoritism in promotion is rather the rule than the exception in the clerical grades.

### Doing Business Again.

"When my friends thought I was about to take leave of this world, on account of indigestion, nervousness and general debility," writes A. A. Christolm, Treadwell, N. Y., "and when it looked as if there was no hope left, I was persuaded to try Electric Bitters, and I rejoice to say that they are curing me. I am now doing business again as of old, and am still gaining daily."

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## THE AMERICAN IDEA.

Individualism the Keynote of Our National Success.

Charles L. Edgar and Walton Clark of the National Civic Federation Commission on Municipal Ownership Show Why American Institutions Should Not Be Abandoned at the Demand of Socialists and Municipalizers.

The efforts of the National Civic Federation have resulted in a commission of Americans whose first interest in this investigation, as in all else, is to do what they may to preserve and continue the American idea and American institutions, believing that the high state of civilization and prosperity in America justifies the American idea and the American method and places the burden of proof heavily upon those who would say another idea and another method would result in improvement in the condition of the people.

Believing this to be the thought and intent of the membership of the commission and of the committee subordinate to it, we still believe that there are ills in the American body politic that may be remedied or cured. We believe that the remedy should be applied and the cure effected without any unnecessary departure from the American idea and the American system. We believe that the framework upon which may be built a purer administration and the highest possible good of the citizens is in existence with us and that it is not necessary in the effort to cure the ills from which the body politic may be suffering to destroy that body. We submit that, living in a land where peace and prosperity are the common lot, we must be very cautious of change. This does not mean that where abuses are found to exist they should not be promptly and mercifully eradicated, but it does mean that changes in system should be undertaken only after conclusive proof that such changes will result in bettering the condition of the individual. We had better bear the relatively few ills we have than subject ourselves to unknown conditions that may bring in their train greater ills of which we do not know.

Our investigation has determined with certainty many heretofore mooted questions. It indicates the probable correct answers to other mooted questions. Where the facts are clear and the conclusion evident our task has been to summarize and indicate. Where there is remaining uncertainty as to facts and conclusions are not evident we have made an effort to determine the probabilities. This has resulted in arguments based on such facts as our investigators have recorded and on our own experience as operators and observers.

We believe no intelligent reader of the voluminous record of this commission's work will fail to conclude that it clearly proves municipal ownership to be productive of many and serious ills, with little or no compensating good. The writers of these chapters, agreeing, we believe, with the other members of the committee of twenty-one, that public service companies should reasonably be regulated and afforded the protection that comes with regulation and appreciating that the committee was not appointed or constituted to consider methods of regulation, nevertheless desire to record their opinion that some form of regulation of private companies should be adopted in each of the United States. What that form should be any investigation is not prepared by any commission or by any study it has made to suggest.

Finally, we wish to state in opposition to municipal ownership, speaking, we believe, for all individualists, arraign the arrogance of many of its advocates in assuming that they exclusively occupy the field of reform in dealing with the problems concerned and that they are the sole promoters of measures of economic improvement in municipal affairs. We assert that the opponents of municipal ownership and operation, firm and consistent supporters of justice, are the class seeking the public welfare intelligently and in accordance with American principles. On this point we do not yield to any body of men.

We seek, as a first principle, to insure every man his own. In doing so and in endeavoring to protect the public against oppression and error we find it our duty to demonstrate the errors in the schemes of municipalizers and Socialists and to warn against the oppression that they threaten. We are resisting efforts to put burdens on the backs of the American people. We cannot and will not remain silent while the attempt is made to thrust costly and impracticable projects upon customers of public service corporations and upon the public at large.

We know the truth will out. We are confident that ultimately the American people must appreciate at their value the unsoundness of the arguments of the municipal Socialists. We shall aid in hastening the day when our fellow citizens will know through discussion what the public of London have been taught by bitter experience. London has awakened to the perils of municipalization, as is evidenced by its verdict in the recent borough and county elections. In that great city the municipalizers have led their fellow citizens astray, and their dupes, finding it, we have administered to their false guides an overwhelming rebuke.

We individualists are not seeking to lead the people in strange paths. Our aim is to keep them in the paths they have heretofore trod—paths well known, along which the American people have marched to heights of prosperity and civic development not

known heretofore to the civilized world. Along these paths have been stumbling blocks. Our opponents are endeavoring to persuade us the sole responsibility for these stumbling blocks rests upon our public service system, to be remedied only by a change of system. This we deny. We are patiently studying the ways of justice. Municipalizers advocate experimenting at enormous cost with public funds, with the principles of liberty and with the institutions of our country. In this we stoutly refuse to take part.

We are conservatives in believing that it is better to adhere to old and tried methods based on our accepted national principles, but radicals in the determination to discover and to sternly rebuke and rectify any injustice which may have been developed by the present system. It has always been the function and duty of government to insure that individuals shall deal justly with their fellows, it is now the function and duty of government to protect the governed against injustice on the part of these associations of individuals working under the name of public service corporations.

Any government that is too feeble or corrupt to control with justice the conduct of a public service corporation has little prospect of being able itself to supply such public service with efficiency and justice. Our duty is to elect to office men who have the intelligence and integrity to govern efficiently, honestly and justly—men who can and will curb the unjust aggressiveness of the individual or of the voluntary association of individuals and who can and will compel each to bear its share of the burdens of government and give in price, service or otherwise a proper consideration for special privileges enjoyed.

Our nation is what it is industrially and commercially and in world politics because of the American character, developed by the most absolute individualism, and because of the American corporation, developed under a government that governed, but did not trade. Our duty is to conserve the human agencies that have made our country what it is—the adventurous individual and voluntary association—but not to let them be our masters. This is the confession of faith of the antimunicipalizer, the anti-Socialist.

### XENIA'S LOSS \$90,000.

Depressing Experience of an Ohio City With Municipal Lighting.

In response to an inquiry in regard to the municipal electric light plant Mayor Brennan of Xenia, O., writes as follows:

"The city paid upward of \$21,000 for a light plant, and the cost of running the same was at the rate of \$103 per lamp. The plant was badly run, the operating of the same being in the hands of a committee of councilmen who were inexperienced and, of course, drawing no salaries, did not give it the proper attention. All they got out of the sale of the works was \$2,500. The city afterward entered into a contract with a private corporation, and the price now paid per lamp is \$32." Another authority states that the amount ultimately invested in the plant was \$35,000 and that the loss when it was sold, together with the excess cost of operation over what the lighting would have cost by contract, amounted to more than \$90,000, in other words, that that sum represents the cost of the experiment.

### Respectfully Submitted.

Recommended to the public utilities commission:

First.—Immediate suppression of the surreptitious subway smoker.

Second.—Municipal ownership of apartment house janitors.

Third.—Make it unconstitutional to play "Aravauna" or "Door John" between the hours of 12 m. and 12 p. m., inclusive, and vice versa.

Fourth.—Provide subway guards and trolley car conductors with safety razors.

Fifth.—Free and unlimited coinage of lemonade.—New York Mail and Express.

### Conserve the Rights of All.

Thus far municipal government in this country has not been a success, and one of the duties, one of the burdens of the government now coming on to assume the responsibilities of citizenship is the cleansing of the Augean stables of municipal corruption and the uplifting of the tone of state legislatures, so that while the interests of the public shall be sacredly preserved the rights and the reasonable profits of the corporations enjoying public franchises shall be carefully and impartially protected and maintained.—Hon. William H. Taft.

### Contract Renewed.

A determined effort was made last spring to launch Patchogue, N. Y., into a municipal waterworks project. A special election held to act in the matter resulted in renewing the contract with the company for twenty years. The village clerk writes that the vote was largely in favor of this action.

### Beating the City Plant.

Ruralites have a scheme to beat the municipal plant to a frazzle. There is no charge at Eaton Rapids for porch lights when next to the street. So out go the lights in the house after supper, and the evening paper is read on the porch in the midst of myriads of bugs. But it's cheaper.—Detroit News.

### Wise Decision at Sparta, Tenn.

At an election held in Sparta, Tenn., on June 27 upon the question of whether or not the town should issue \$40,000 in bonds with which to own and operate a municipal electric light and waterworks plant the proposition was defeated by a vote of 95 to 18.